

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 043645
ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY AF/S:FGWISNER:SAH
APPROVED BY AF:WESCHAUFEELE
S/S - MR. BRIDGES

-----262024 063289 /47

O 261953Z FEB 77 ZFF4
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN NIACT IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 043645

EXDIS FOR THE AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: XGDS-3

'AGS: PFOR, SF

SUBJECT: THE SOUTH AFRICAN REPLY ON NAMIBIA

1. THE SOUTH AFRICAN AMBASSADOR CALLED ON ASSISTANT SECRETARY SCHAUFEELE ON FEBRUARY 26 AND DELIVERED A MEMORANDUM OF RECORD SUMMARIZING OUR EXCHANGES WITH THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT ON NAMIBIA. THE SOUTH AFRICANS ARE NOT PREPARED TO RECONFIRM THE 7 POINT PROPOSAL FOR A NAMIBIAN SETTLEMENT BUT ARE WILLING TO DISCUSS QUOTE SOME BASIC POINTS UNQUOTE.

2. THE SOUTH AFRICAN MEMORANDUM POINTS OUT THAT THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT WILL HAVE GREAT DIFFICULTY IN SLOWING THE PACE OF THE TURNHALLE CONFERENCE AND REMINDS US THAT WE HAVE BEEN ADEQUATELY WARNED THAT THIS WOULD BE THE CASE. IN LIGHT OF THE ADVANCED STAGE OF TURNHALLE DELIBERATIONS QUOTE SOME OF THE SEVEN POINTS HAVE FOR PRACTICAL PURPOSES BEEN OVERTAKEN UNQUOTE. THE MEMORANDUM CLOSING BY SAYING
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 043645

THAT THE SAG IS PREPARED TO DISCUSS QUOTE SOME BASIC POINTS UNQUOTE WITH US.

3. IN PRESENTING HIS MEMORANDUM BOTHA STRESSED HIS GOVERNMENT'S INTEREST IN SEEING MODERATE GOVERNMENT SET UP IN NAMIBIA AND RHODESIA. SOUTH AFRICA, HE POINTED OUT, HAS NO INTEREST IN REPLACING A MINORITY WHITE REGIME IN

RHODESIA WITH A MINORITY BLACK REGIME WHOSE ONLY POLITICAL SUPPORT IS MILITARY MUSCLE. THIS, HE SAID, APPEARS TO BE BRITAIN'S INTENTION. SIMILARLY IN NAMIBIA MODERATE AFRICANS, INCLUDING MANY OF SWAPO'S ORIGINAL FOUNDERS, ARE SEEKING TO CREATE AN INDEPENDENT NAMIBIAN GOVERNMENT AND SOUTH AFRICA AGREES THEY HAVE A BETTER CLAIM THAN DOES SWAPO'S PRESENT LEADERSHIP.

4. IN REPLY SCHAUFLE TOLD BOTHA THAT HE DOES NOT AGREE WITH BOTHA'S DESCRIPTION OF BRITISH INTENTIONS IN RHODESIA. THE BRITISH DO NOT INTEND TO HAND OVER POWER TO ROBERT MUGABE AND HIS FREEDOM FIGHTERS. THEY HAVE ARGUED, WITH OUR SUPPORT, AGAINST THE FRONT LINE STATES' INTENTION TO GIVE THE PATRIOTIC FRONT EXCLUSIVE RECOGNITION AND THE FRONT LINE PRESIDENTS APPEAR TO BE HAVING SECOND THOUGHTS. THE BRITISH HAVE HELD TO THEIR VIEW THAT FREE AND FAIR ELECTIONS MUST PRECEDE INDEPENDENCE.

5. WITH RESPECT TO NAMIBIA, SCHAUFLE TOLD BOTHA THAT THE SITUATION WAS NOT AS STARK AS HE PAINTED IT. WE HAVE INDICATIONS SOME AFRICAN NATIONS ARE UNEASY WITH SWAPO'S CONTINUED INTRANSIGENCE AND MIGHT BE WILLING TO PLAY A MORE FORCEFUL ROLE. SCHAUFLE ALSO REMINDED BOTHA THAT WE FACE A SECURITY COUNCIL DEBATE ON NAMIBIA WHICH WILL HAVE UNFORTUNATE CONSEQUENCES FOR HIS GOVERNMENT IF IT CANNOT BE PROVED THAT AN INTERNATIONALLY ACCEPTABLE SETTLEMENT IS BEING SOUGHT. BOTHA SAID THE POINTS SCHAUFLE MADE WERE MOST HELPFUL, AND HE WOULD COMMUNICATE THEM TO CAPE TOWN. HE AND THE ASSISTANT
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 STATE 043645

SECRETARY AGREED TO EXAMINE IN GREATER DETAIL NEXT WEEK WHAT THE SAG AND WE HAVE IN MIND.

6. WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR COMMENT AND SUGGESTIONS.
VANCE

SECRET

NNN

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 043645 POSS DUPE
ORIGIN SS-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /016 R

66011

DRAFTED BY IO/UNP:JFTEFFT:CB

APPROVED BY IO:BSWOPE

AF/S:FGWISNER

S/S:SESTEINER

-----010413 084076 /75

O 010300Z MAR 77

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 043645

EXDIS

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 43645 ACTION CAPE TOWN 26 FEB 77

QUOTE

S E C R E T STATE 043645

EXDIS FOR THE AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: XGDS-3

'AGS: PFOR, SF

SUBJECT: THE SOUTH AFRICAN REPLY ON NAMIBIA

1. THE SOUTH AFRICAN AMBASSADOR CALLED ON ASSISTANT SECRETARY SCHAUFLE ON FEBRUARY 26 AND DELIVERED A MEMORANDUM OF RECORD SUMMARIZING OUR EXCHANGES WITH THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT ON NAMIBIA. THE SOUTH AFRICANS ARE NOT PREPARED TO RECONFIRM THE 7 POINT PROPOSAL FOR A NAMIBIAN SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 043645 POSS DUPE

SETTLEMENT BUT ARE WILLING TO DISCUSS QUOTE SOME BASIC POINTS UNQUOTE.

2. THE SOUTH AFRICAN MEMORANDUM POINTS OUT THAT THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT WILL HAVE GREAT DIFFICULTY IN SLOWING THE PACE OF THE TURNHALLE CONFERENCE AND REMINDS US THAT WE HAVE BEEN ADEQUATELY WARNED THAT THIS WOULD BE THE CASE. IN LIGHT OF THE ADVANCED STAGE OF TURNHALLE DELIBERATIONS QUOTE SOME OF THE SEVEN POINTS HAVE FOR PRACTICAL PURPOSES BEEN OVERTAKEN UNQUOTE. THE MEMORANDUM CLOSES BY SAYING THAT THE SAG IS PREPARED TO DISCUSS QUOTE SOME BASIC POINTS UNQUOTE WITH US.

3. IN PRESENTING HIS MEMORANDUM BOTHA STRESSED HIS GOVERNMENT'S INTEREST IN SEEING MODERATE GOVERNMENT SET UP IN NAMIBIA AND RHODESIA. SOUTH AFRICA, HE POINTED OUT, HAS NO INTEREST IN REPLACING A MINORITY WHITE REGIME IN RHODESIA WITH A MINORITY BLACK REGIME WHOSE ONLY POLITICAL SUPPORT IS MILITARY MUSCLE. THIS, HE SAID, APPEARS TO BE BRITAIN'S INTENTION. SIMILARLY IN NAMIBIA MODERATE AFRICANS, INCLUDING MANY OF SWAPO'S ORIGINAL FOUNDERS, ARE SEEKING TO CREATE AN INDEPENDENT NAMIBIAN GOVERNMENT AND SOUTH AFRICA AGREES THEY HAVE A BETTER CLAIM THAN DOES SWAPO'S PRESENT LEADERSHIP.

4. IN REPLY SCHAUFLE TOLD BOTHA THAT HE DOES NOT AGREE WITH BOTHA'S DESCRIPTION OF BRITISH INTENTIONS IN RHODESIA. THE BRITISH DO NOT INTEND TO HAND OVER POWER TO ROBERT MUGABE AND HIS FREEDOM FIGHTERS. THEY HAVE ARGUED, WITH OUR SUPPORT, AGAINST THE FRONT LINE STATES' INTENTION TO GIVE THE PATRIOTIC FRONT EXCLUSIVE RECOGNITION AND THE FRONT LINE PRESIDENTS APPEAR TO BE HAVING SECOND THOUGHTS. THE BRITISH HAVE HELD TO THEIR VIEW THAT FREE AND FAIR ELECTIONS MUST PRECEDE INDEPENDENCE.

5. WITH RESPECT TO NAMIBIA, SCHAUFLE TOLD BOTHA THAT
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 STATE 043645 POSS DUPE

THE SITUATION WAS NOT AS STARK AS HE PAINTED IT. WE HAVE INDICATIONS SOME AFRICAN NATIONS ARE UNEASY WITH SWAPO'S CONTINUED INTRANSIGENCE AND MIGHT BE WILLING TO PLAY A MORE FORCEFUL ROLE. SCHAUFLE ALSO REMINDED BOTHA THAT WE FACE A SECURITY COUNCIL DEBATE ON NAMIBIA WHICH WILL HAVE UNFORTUNATE CONSEQUENCES FOR HIS GOVERNMENT IF IT CANNOT BE PROVED THAT AN INTERNATIONALLY ACCEPTABLE SETTLEMENT IS BEING SOUGHT. BOTHA SAID THE POINTS SCHAUFLE MADE WERE MOST HELPFUL, AND HE WOULD COMMUNICATE THEM TO CAPE TOWN. HE AND THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY AGREED TO EXAMINE IN GREATER DETAIL NEXT WEEK WHAT THE SAG AND WE HAVE IN MIND.

6. WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR COMMENT AND SUGGESTIONS.
VANCE.
UNQUOTE.

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: INTERIM GOVERNMENT, POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION, LIBERATION FRONTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 26-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE043645
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: FGWISNER:SAH
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X3
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770067-1231
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t1977025/aaaaaeia.tel
Line Count: 215
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: d6e6f5c7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 31-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3341383
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: THE SOUTH AFRICAN REPLY ON NAMIBIA
TAGS: PFOR, SF, WA, RH, UK, US, SWAPO, (BOTHA), (SCHAUFLE, WILLIAM E)
To: CAPE TOWN
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/d6e6f5c7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009